MAGOR & ST. MELLONS RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
AND
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1970

**

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MAGOR and ST. MELLONS RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL
1970 - 1971

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Councillor A.E. Hollingdale

VICE CHAIRMAN

Councillor Mrs. L.E. Hollings

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OFFICERS

Clerk of the Council	......	D.C.V. Gwynn
Deputy Clerk	......	R. Carpenter
Treasurer	......	M.G. Barnes
Surveyor & Engineer	......	D.H. Toleman. T.D. C.Eng. M.I.C.E.
Medical Officer of Health	......	L.J. Powell M.B. B.Ch B.Sc. D.Obst. R.C.O.G. D.P.H.
Chief Public Health Inspector	......	I. James Cert.S.I.B. Meat and Other Foods Inspector.

ERRATA

Infant Mortality Rates

Total infant deaths per 1,000 live births ... 29

MAGOR AND ST. MELLONS RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1970

To the Chairman and Members of the

MAGOR AND ST. MELLONS RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report upon the general conditions of the Public Health for the year for the Rural District of Magor and St. Mellons.
The report is drawn upon the lines indicated in Circular 1/71(Wales)

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GENERAL STATISTICS

Population estimated for 1970	18,880
Area in acres(25 parishes)	38,934
Number of inhabited houses	6,499
Rateable Value at 1st April, 1971	£ 2,362,782
Actual product of Penny Rate 1970/71	10,198

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births

Number (Male - 157; Female - 155)	312
Rate per population	18.6
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	4.0

Stillbirths

Number (Male - 1; Female - 3)	4
Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths	13
Total live and stillbirths	316

Infant Mortality Rates

Infants Deaths (deaths under 1 year)	9
Total infants deaths per 1,000 live births	67.3
Deaths of legitimate infants under 1 year per 1,000 legitimate live births	30
Deaths of illegitimate infants under 1 year per 1,000 illegitimate live births	Nil

Neo-Natal Mortality Rates

Deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births	19

Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rates

Deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births	19

Perinatal Mortality Rate

Stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined, per 1,000 total live and stillbirths	32

Maternal Mortality Rate

Number of deaths, including abortion	Nil
Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths	Nil

Live Birth Rate for Monmouthshire	16.1
Live Birth Rate for England and Wales	16.0
Stillbirth Rate for Monmouthshire	15.46
Stillbirth Rate for England and Wales	13.0
Infant Mortality Rate for Monmouthshire	21.12
Infant Mortality Rate for England and Wales	18.0
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate for Monmouthshire	14.26
Maternal Mortality Rate for Monmouthshire	0.18

Death Rate

Number of Deaths registered during the year		200
	Male 101	
	Female 99	
	Death Rate :-	14.1
Death Rate for England and Wales		11.7
Death Rate for Monmouthshire		12.99

CAUSES OF DEATH

In the following table, deaths are classified under the 65 headings based on the International Abbreviated List (B List) from the Manual of the Eighth Revision of the International Classification of Diseases, Injuries, and Causes of Death.

		M	F
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	....	1	-
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	....	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus	....	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	....	1	3
Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	....	3	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	....	8	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	....	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	....	-	3
Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate	....	2	-
Other Malignant Neoplasms	....	4	10
Diabetes Mellitus	....	1	-
Other Diseases of Nervous System	....	2	-
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	....	1	2
Hypertensive Disease	....	-	3
Ischaemic Heart Disease	....	29	24
Other Forms of Heart Disease	....	-	8
Cerebrovascular Disease	....	16	16
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	....	4	3
Influenza	....	1	1
Pneumonia	....	5	5
Bronchitis and Emphysema	....	5	1
Asthma	....	1	-
Appendicitis	....	1	-
Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	....	1	-
Other Diseases of Digestive System	....	1	-
Hyperplasia of Prostate	....	1	-
Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	....	2	-
Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System	....	-	3
Congenital Anomalies	....	2	2
Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc.	....	1	-
Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality	....	3	-
Symptoms and Ill Defined Conditions	....	-	2
Motor Vehicle Accidents	....	2	1
All Other Accidents	....	2	4
All Other External Causes	....	-	1
Total All Causes:		100	98

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE COUNCIL

Medical Officer of Health, three Public Health Inspectors (Whole Time Officers).

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE, ETC.

The Monmouthshire County Council as Local Health Authority is responsible for the arrangements and administration of the Services under Part III of the Act.

The following is a summary of these Services:

1. Care of Mothers and Young Children.
2. Midwifery Services.
3. Health Visiting.
4. Home Nursing.
5. Vaccination and Immunisation.
6. Ambulance Services.
7. Prevention of Illness, Care and Aftercare.
8. Domestic Help.
9. Duties under Lunacy and Mental Treatment Act and Mental Deficiency Act.

PARTICULARS OF PIPED WATER SUPPLIES IN EACH PARISH

A) By Local Authority of Statutory Water Undertakings.

PARISH	Number of Dwelling Houses	Number Supplied	Estimated Population	Approximate Population Served
Bishton	175	175	509	509
Coedkernew	54	49	158	144
Duffryn	99	93	289	271
Goldcliff	79	75	230	218
Graig	931	902	2700	2616
Henllys	109	91	318	265
Kemeys Inferior	46	23	135	69
Langstone	773	758	2243	2200
Llandavenny	11	11	33	33
Llanvaches	102	53	297	156
Llanmartin	109	105	318	306
Llanwern	100	100	292	292
Lower Machen	42	14	123	43
Magor	222	222	645	645
Marshfield	371	363	1077	1054
Michaelstone-y-Fedw	73	60	213	175
Nash	96	93	279	270
Penhow	137	117	399	341
Peterstone	63	60	184	175
Redwick	60	58	175	170
Rogerstone	2389	2367	6929	6866
St. Brides	69	53	201	155
St. Mellons	366	359	1062	1042
Whitson	18	16	56	51
Wilcrick	5	5	15	15

B) By Private Supplies

PARISH	Number of Dwelling Houses	Number Supplied	Estimated Population	Approximate Population Served
Coedkernew	as above	5	as above	14
Duffryn	"	6	"	18
Goldcliff	"	4	"	12
Graig	"	29	"	84
Henllys	"	18	"	53
Kemeys Inferior	"	23	"	66
Langstone	"	15	"	43
Llanmartin	"	4	"	12
Llanvaches	"	49	"	141
Lower Machen	"	28	"	80
Marshfield	"	8	"	23
Michaelstone-y-Fedw	"	13	"	38
Nash	"	3	"	9
Penhow	"	20	"	58
Peterstone	"	3	"	9
Redwick	"	2	"	5
Rogerstone	"	22	"	63
St. Brides	"	16	"	46
St. Mellons	"	7	"	20
Whitson	"	2	"	5
	6499	6499	18,880	18,880

HOUSING

Number of new houses erected during the year:

i)	By Local Authority	36
ii)	By other Bodies or Persons	141

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Immunisation Statistics

		Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Polio
Monmouthshire	1969	55%	59%	55%
Eng. & Wales	1969	76%	78%	74%
Wales	1969	72%	73%	67%
Monmouthshire	1970	65%	66%	58%
Eng. & Wales	1970	78%	80%	79%
Wales	1970	73%	74%	71%

It will be seen that Monmouthshire figures have improved by 10% for Whooping Cough, 7% for Diptheria, and 3% for Polio.

Atmospheric Pollution

Nineteen Seventy is European Conservation Year, and the interest shown by H.R.H. The Duke of Edinburgh through his support of the British Year has been of great value in making the public generally aware of what is involved in pollution, and all that is required for the conservation of the environment.

This country led the world in legislation to produce cleaner air in the form of the first Alkali Act, which was passed in 1863, and still remains in force to-day with modifications and extensions. The principle which it established of using the best practicable means for preventing the escape of offensive gases to the atmosphere still applies. The Clean Air Act 1956 was not only the first Clean Air Act in this country, but the first Clean Air Act in the world. This has been amended and strengthened by the recent Act of 1968.

Industry in our Area has some special problems and this Council, as the responsible Authority, has kept itself well informed as to the nature and concentration of pollution in the atmosphere from its six fully equipped and up-to-date, monitoring stations.

In addition, close contact has been kept with the Medical Research Council's air pollution unit under the care of Professor P.J. Lawther of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London. This unit has been designated as the World Health Organisation international reference laboratory on air pollution; this means that it works on clinical and epidemiological aspects while the Warren Spring laboratory (at Stevenage, Herts.) has a section under Dr. Sean Craxford as the reference centre for measurement surveys.

Under these auspices we have taken measurements for smoke, sulphur dioxide as well as for grit and dust, and are intending to extend our range of monitoring to include some of the metals such as iron, copper, zinc, cadmium, lead and mercury as well as chlorine and fluorine.

In the meantime, the research workers at the unit are studying how the lungs deal with attacks by contaminants and which bacteria are inhibited and which stimulated to grow by the materials occurring on particles of smoke.

However, although atmospheric pollution contributes to the incidence of bronchitis, cigarette smoking is the major causative factor. The same applies to lung cancer except that death rates from cancer of the lung tend to be high in countries where the air is heavily polluted by smoke from domestic coal. Also, as far as carbon monoxide is concerned, if a petrol engine is left running in a closed garage, the CO may reach a concentration that is fatal because it replaces the O_2 from the haemoglobin in the blood, but even in heavy traffic the level of carboxyhaemoglobin found in the blood of those exposed to its fumes rarely reaches that commonly found in cigarette smokers.

Family Planning

Birth Rate of Magor & St. Mellons RDC in 1969 - 19.1
" " " " " " " " 1970 - 18.6
Birth Rate of England and Wales in 1969 - 16.3
" " " " " " " 1970 - 16.0

Pollution of the environment is man-made and would diminish if there were fewer human beings, but we are told that if fertility goes unchecked the population of the world will double by the turn of the century. A greater interest in family planning means a better quality of life for each child born.

Family Planning advice is given at two centres in the area; Rogerstone and Llanmartin. These clinics are run by Monmouthshire County Council health department, being the responsible authority. Screening for cervical and breast cancer are also carried out during the same sessions at these two centres.

In conclusion, I should like to thank the Officers of all Departments of the Council for their kind and willing co-operation during the year.

I am,
Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

L.J. POWELL, M.B. B.Ch. B.Sc.
D. Obst. R.C.O.G. D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

Council Offices,
Baneswell,
Newport,
Mon..
NPT 4ST
Tel: Newport 64181

INFECTIOUS AND OTHER NOTIFIABLE DISEASES
ANNUAL RETURN

Age Group	Tetanus		Infective Jaundice		Tuberculosis respiratory		Tuberculosis meninges & CNS		Other	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2-4 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-9 years	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
10-14 years	-	-	1	4	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-19 years	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
20-24 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25-34 years	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
35-44 years	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
45-54 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55-64 years	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
65-74 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
75 & over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Age unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total All ages	-	-	5	9	1	-	-	-	-	1

Whooping Cough		
Age Group	M	F
Under 3 months	-	-
3 months	-	-
6 months	-	-
9 months	-	-
1 year	-	-
2-4 years	-	-
5-9 years	-	-
10-14 years	-	-
15-19 years	-	-
20-24 years	-	-
25-34 years	-	-
35-44 years	-	-
45-54 years	-	-
55-64 years	-	-
65-74 years	-	-
75 & over	-	-
Age unknown	-	-
Total all ages	-	-

Other Notifiable Diseases		
M		F
-	Smallpox	-
-	Anthrax	-
-	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-
-	Yellow Fever	-
-	Typhus Fever	-
-	Cholera	-

Age Group	Acute Encephalitis				Leptospirosis		Paratyphoid Fever		Typhoid Fever		Food Poisoning		Malaria	
	infective		post infective											
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 5 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-14 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
15-44 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45-64 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 & over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Age unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total all ages	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-

Age Group	Measles (excluding Rubella)		Dysentery		Scarlet Fever		Diphtheria		Acute meningitis due to infection with meningococcus		Acute meningitis due to infection with other specified organisms		Acute meningitis due to infection with unspecified organisms		Acute Poliomyelitis paralytic		Acute Poliomyelitis non-paralytic	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 year	5	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 years	4	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3 years	5	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4 years	4	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-9 years	26	34	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10-14 years	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-24 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 & over	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Age unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total all ages	49	77	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

MAGOR AND ST. MELLONS RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

To the Chairman and Members of the

Magor and St. Mellons Rural District Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my annual Report for the year 1970.

The term "Environmental Pollution" took on a new meaning in 1970, which was a year of increasing public awareness of all aspects of pollution. Widespread publicity, some of it almost hysterical in its nature, made the man in the street acutely aware of his environment and how he was destroying it. The National Press gave a great deal of publicity to the apparent shortcomings of the Government and Local Councils which has led to renewed and vastly increased efforts by all concerned to "clean up our environment".

This trend has been accepted by the general public who are demanding more action in this field and more information on methods of preventing pollution in their own localities. The increased number of complaints in respect of atmospheric pollution has led to a more technical approach to the problem by your Public Health Inspectors.

The improvement of older houses to a comfortable and satisfactory standard has again justifiably received widespread publicity in a sustained attempt to increase the number of Improvement Grants taken up by owners of substandard dwellings. I am pleased to report that the number of grants approved increased from 28 in 1969, to 37 in 1970; of these, 12 were standard grants and 25 were discretionary grants.

INFESTATION

During the year, the department was asked to deal with the disinfestation of beds and bedding infested with SARCOPTES SCABIEI which is a mite giving rise to Scabies in man. In this case the beds and bedding were removed to Allt-yr-Yn Hospital, Newport, where they were steam disinfested under supervision. The treatment was successful and no further complaints arose.

SUMMARY OF REPAIRS

The following is a summary of work carried out as a result of Informal Notices being served upon the owners concerned:

Number of Walls made Damp-proof	2
" " Sashcords provided to Windows	1
" " Windows and Window Frames repaired	3
" " Roofs repaired	3
" " Gutterings and Downpipes repaired	4
" " Doors repaired or renewed	2
" " Floors repaired or renewed	3
" " Ceilings repaired	3
" " Skirting Boards repaired	4
" " Blocked Drains cleared	12
" " Chimneys repaired	1
" " Sinks provided	1
" " W.C. Cisterns repaired or renewed	3
" " W.C. Pans repaired or renewed	1
" " Grates repaired or renewed	2
" " Cesspools made good	4
" " New Cesspools provided	2
" " New Drains provided	5
" " Drains relaid.	7

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

In appropriate cases, notifiable diseases were visited and investigated.

Visits Made : 161
Houses Disinfected : NIL
Patients removed to Hosp.: NIL

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

In 1970 complaints of infestation by rats and/or mice were as numerous as in previous years.

While the rat population of urban areas continues to be reduced, the rural areas in their battle against this costly rodent, do not seem to be gaining much ground, and in their efforts to turn the tide have paid increasing attention to the inspection and treatment of farm premises.

Rubbish dumping by private persons in unauthorised areas has given rise to problems both aesthetic and sanitary since as well as creating eyesores, such dumping provides harbourage for rats. It is with this in mind that we continually seek the co-operation of the public in the sighting and reporting of such occurrences.

Once again, I wish to express my sincere appreciation for the prompt and valuable assistance given by Mr. R.W. Braithwaite, Div. Pest Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

The following work was undertaken by the Rodent Operative during the year 1970.

			Non Agricultural	Agricultural
1.	Number of properties in district		5,867	455
2.	Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification		804	121
	Number infested by	i) Rats	783	115
		ii) Mice	21	6
3.	Total number of properties inspected for ratsand/or mice for reasons other than notification		331	-
	Number infested by	i) Rats	322	-
		ii) Mice	9	-

Other work undertaken by the department during the year 1970, concerned complaints in respect of the following:

2 Silverfish infestations	14 Wasp infestations
5 Woodlice infestations	1 Earwig infestation
5 Midge infestations	4 Flea infestations
2 Mosquito infestations	1 Bat infestation
7 Bee infestations	9 Ant infestations

WATER SUPPLIES

The sampling of both public and private water supplies to ascertain their bacteriological purity continued to be a regular part of the work of the Department during the year, in which 43 samples were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for examination. Although the Ministry standards in respect of private water supplies are very flexible, the 11 samples which were found to be unsatisfactory were all from private supplies.

The Gwent Water Board also take regular samples from premises within the rural district and during the year 264 samples were taken of which 244 were satisfactory.

177 connections from the Gwent Water Board mains were made in 1970, all of which were to new houses.

MEAT AND MEAT INSPECTION

There are six butchers' shops within the rural district. There are no licensed private slaughterhouses; the meat for sale in these shops being collected from neighbouring private and public slaughterhouses.

One application, which was granted by the Council, was received for renewal of a licence to slaughter pigs in 1970.

SHOPS ACT, 1950

The administration of the above Act continued to play a part in the running of the Department. In latter years there has been growing criticism of its usefulness by many organisations, especially in relation to the hours of closing and hours of employment. The value of the Act was shown when a complaint was received from a petrol pump attendant in respect of his hours of work and the lack of facilities for the taking of meals.

Prompt action by the department ensured that adequate time for the taking of meals was allowed and a reduction in the hours worked was achieved.

CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT 1960

There are 22 licensed caravan sites within the area which are controlled by the provisions of the above Act.

The Model Standards laid down by the Ministry continue to be the guideline by which local authorities control conditions at licensed sites. Two points seem to emerge as the most important considerations, particularly in relation to larger sites. Firstly, the minimum distance of 20 feet between caravans is crucial from a fire prevention point of view. With the increasing size of caravans I am hopeful that the attempts being made to increase this distance will be successful.

Secondly, modern residential caravans often costing in excess of £1,000, are frequently better furnished and are more comfortable than many flats or furnished rooms. It would seem logical, therefore, that the call is for vastly increased standards and for better amenities than are possible at present. From a public health point of view, this can only be a good development.

SCRAP METAL DEALERS ACT 1964

One licence was issued in 1968 to an itinerant collector operating in the Rural District, in accordance with the procedure of this Regulation and will expire in August, 1971.

THE INSPECTION OF FOOD

A considerable amount of the department's time during the year was taken up by the regular inspection of all types of food premises, under the Food and Drugs Act 1955, and the various Regulations made thereunder.

The problem of securing a satisfactory hygienic standard whilst at the same time having a large turnover of staff, is a perpetual headache for most food businesses. It is true to say that quality control begins on the factory floor but even the most pure of our foods can be spoilt by one pair of dirty hands or one careless moment in the life of that food. It is a sombre thought that 15 years after the first Food Hygiene Regulations a clean food rests literally in the hands of the manufacturer, shopkeeper, and their respective assistants.

The handling of food is rightly of prime concern, but how can we help the food handler? One of the tedious, but very important, duties of every food handler is routine cleansing of food equipment and food rooms. Thus, if we can convince owners of food businesses that by making these tasks as easy and effective as possible, the resulting happier staff will more readily accept even higher standards. This must in the long term be our aim.

The arrangement whereby wholesalers and retailers voluntarily surrender food suspected of being unfit for human consumption, continued and during the year the following articles of foodstuffs were surrendered.

Tinned Meats	lbs.	oz.
Chopped Ham	141	5
Pork Luncheon	81	2
Spam	25	10
Tongue	68	0
Stewed Steak	36	5
Chopped Pork	30	5
Corned Beef	148	5
Steak and Kidney	17	8
Minced Beef/Onions	2	0
Sausage Meat	33	0
Chicken	3	0
Hamburgers	20	8
Ham and Pork	40	6
Other Meats		
Bacon/Gammon various cuts	26	8
Beef various cuts	2	12

Tinned Fruits	Tins
Fruit Cocktails	8
Fruit Salads	69
Peaches	9
Plums	3
Pineapple Rings/Slices	15
Prunes	7
Loganberries	14
Tinned Fish	
Salmon	3
Kippers	5
Shrimps	7
Tinned Puddings/Sweets	
Pie Fillings	3
Rice, Creamed	44
Puddings	51

Tinned Vegetables	Tins
Peas	521
Tomatoes	123
Beans	381
Carrots	126
Veg. Salads	5
Potatoes	26
Spaghetti	30

Tinned Soups	Tins
Various Types	225
Tomato Juice	2

Tinned Baby Foods/Soup	Tins
Various Types	57

Tinned Milk/Cream	Tins
Full Cream	46
Evap. Milk	127

Cheeses	lbs.
Various	30

POULTRY INSPECTION

Poultry has now become a standard part of the nation's diet, and is now recognised as a vast industry. In order to produce the number of birds to meet the demands of the public, more and more reliance is being placed on the Broiler House system of rearing. The attendant risks of heavy losses due to disease mean the breeders of the birds are only too well aware of the need to remain vigilant. This is borne out by the very low incidence of disease found in marketed poultry.

However, it is as well to stress the dangers of Salmonella food poisoning from the consumption of under-cooked poultry. By far the most probable cause of under-cooking is the housewife's habit of putting a deep frozen chicken straight into the oven. In this case, much of the "cooking" time is actually spent in defrosting. I am of the opinion that much of the Salmonella poisoning found in my day to day work is the result of badly cooked chicken.

The following figures relate to poultry inspection carried out by the department during the year 1970.

Number of poultry processing establishments within the district	1
Number of visits to these premises	72
Number of birds processed during the year	46,604
Type of birds processed	Hens/Capons
Percentage of birds rejected as unfit for human consuption	1.29
Weight of poultry condemned as unfit for human consumption	2,074 lbs

LIQUID EGG (PASTEURISATION) REGULATIONS 1963

Once again I am able to report that regular weekly samples of pasteurised whole egg and raw egg whites were taken from the Rogerstone factory which is owned by Messrs. Wick and Company (Egg Products) Limited.

During the year, the Company found that there was at times a shortage of home produced eggs and so imported eggs were seen in the plant. These eggs were imported from Australia and Holland, and arrived in liquid form. All such imported supplies were thoroughly tested and were, in every case, found to be entirely satisfactory.

No problems arose during the sampling of home produced eggs.

I would again like to take the opportunity of expressing my thanks to the Management and Staff of Messrs Wick and Company (Egg Products) Limited, for their continuing co-operation and interest. They are all to be congratulated on the exemplary standard of hygiene that they maintain at all times. I am also grateful for the advice and help of the Public Health Laboratory who never fail to cope with whatever burdens we may place upon them.

ICE CREAM (HEAT TREATMENT) REGULATIONS 1959

Ice cream, that once highly suspect food, has long since ceased to be a common cause of food poisoning troubles. The quality product produced by the large, national manufacturers is rightly regarded as a clean and wholesome food and offers no problems as long as the appropriate storage and handling procedures are adopted.

For the van salesman the summer-time boom in ice cream sales offers fewer problems as the years go by. The so-called "soft ice cream" is now made by adding water to a pre-packed, sterilised mix and then freezing. As long as the equipment used is adequately cleaned very few problems should arise.

In all, 14 samples were taken during the year and where necessary further samples were taken to ensure that a satisfactory standard was maintained.

MILK AND DAIRIES

It is the duty of the Local Authority to ensure that milk and milk products are received by the consumer in good condition and free from contamination. With this firmly in mind, a great deal of time and energy was devoted during the year to all aspects affecting the sale and distribution of milk.

Frequent visits were made to the pasteurisation plant in Marshfield. One recurring problem which I hope we have solved by this time, is the protection of milk from the undue effects of sun-light whilst in transit from the dairy to customers. It would seem to be a relatively simple procedure to ensure that all bulk bottled milk supplies are covered before leaving the dairy, particularly as canvas covers are provided. However, it would seem that the human factor weighs heavily against this.

23 milk samples were taken from various retailers within the area for bacteriological examination. I am pleased to report that all samples were found to be satisfactory.

NOISE ABATEMENT ACT 1960

During the year, the new concept of noise being a pollutant was evolved and stress was laid on the need to remove this form of pollution, in common with other forms of pollution. To achieve this it is obviously necessary to define "noise" - and here all sorts of problems arise. To define noise as unwanted sound is simple and probably correct. However, the reaction of two listeners to any given sound may well be vastly different.

The Public Health Inspector when called upon to deal with a neighbourly dispute on a noise nuisance, must use accurate instrument-ation in his investigation, and must not rely on his own ears. The department's Sound Level Meter has been used on occasion during the year to assess the validity of complaints.

During the year 38 visits were made in connection with noise complaints.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

The Clean Air Acts of 1956 and 1968 are the principal Acts controlling the pollution of the atmosphere. During the year a number of new sets of Regulations were introduced, and atmospheric pollution rightly received a great deal of publicity.

The Clean Air (Measurement of Grit and Dust) Regulations relate to the standard methods by which the prescribed tolerable limits for grit and dust emission can be measured. This is necessarily a complicated technical procedure for which expert training is required. I am pleased to report that the two District Public Health Inspectors attended a course organised by the National Industrial Fuel Efficiency Service to receive such instruction.

The research into atmospheric pollution in the form of the National Survey of Smoke and Sulphur Dioxide pollutants continued during the year. Towards the end of the year two further monitoring stations were brought into operation in the Rhiwderin and Bassaleg areas. With the six stations positioned around the perimeter of the British Steel Corporation, Spencer Works, the Council now has eight operational sites. Two further sites in the Rogerstone area are planned for the near future.

At each of the monitoring stations there is a grit and dust sampling device which measures the total undissolved solid pollutants present in the atmosphere. From a careful study of the results over the past few years it would seem that this form of pollution is more important than either smoke or sulphur dioxide, both of which have remained fairly constant.

Complaints were received from residents of Rogerstone in respect of smoke and fumes emanating from the Castle Works of Alcan Booth Limited. Investigations revealed that on each occasion the emission was due to the cryolyting of the furnaces which is a permitted process.

The following pages show the statistics extracted from the quarterly reports of the Public Analyst.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION SUMMARY

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Jan	Feb	Mar	Jan	Feb	Mar
		1968			1969			1970	
Langstone									
Smoke	29	35	15	36	31	45	28	20	15
SO2	48	85	61	62	79	101	73	65	48
Und/Solids	103	107	386	79	29	10	52	303	60
Underwood									
Smoke	37	19	26	57	37	31	49	40	29
SO2	56	9	3	66	76	87	58	38	41
Und/Solids	290	246	305	-	100	149	140	197	174
Bishton									
Smoke	28	31	17	27	28	34	13	15	8
SO2	23	17	20	38	53	57	5	4	13
Und/Solids	391	301	275	242	156	144	171	455	755
Llanwern									
Smoke	54	44	27	38	37	40	30	28	24
SO2	50	54	53	51	58	60	61	55	40
Und/Solids	308	308	449	555	110	128	303	304	312
Nash									
Smoke	33	46	13	23	29	36	20	22	14
SO2	37	36	29	23	53	65	32	59	43
Und/Solids	147	124	260	189	111	205	116	144	197
Whitson									
Smoke	20	23	10	17	16	23	15	12	15
SO2	45	46	44	7	35	58	36	66	51
Und/Solids	241	240	228	163	123	65	175	164	241

Smoke: Concentration of smoke in microgrammes per cubic metre.

SO2 : Concentration of sulphur dioxide in microgrammes per cubic metre.

Und/Solids :
Concentration of undissolved solids in milligrammes per square metre per day.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION SUMMARY

	Apl	May	Jun	Apl	May	Jun	Apl	May	Jun
	1968			1969			1970		
Langstone									
Smoke	15	14	12	15	14	9	10	2	9
SO2	45	43	43	45	54	43	48	53	39
Und/Solids	90	122	103	79	128	105	105	82	124
Underwood									
Smoke	22	28	15	10	11	9	3	24	12
SO2	3	13	27	48	36	34	25	39	22
Und/Solids	118	-	190	266	103	156	379	-	-
Bishton									
Smoke	11	17	19	16	11	13	13	12	-
SO2	37	40	58	48	16	19	70	4	-
Und/Solid	543	391	725	372	560	309	395	180	384
Llanwern									
Smoke	20	15	17	9	16	11	24	14	10
SO2	40	38	33	26	51	19	50	36	36
Und/Solids	538	-	453	236	491	501	213	271	479
Nash									
Smoke	-	-	9	11	10	8	10	13	8
SO2	-	-	24	42	31	21	38	23	22
Und/Solids	122	57	257	278	193	408	98	253	361
Whitson									
Smoke	7	8	4	8	7	6	12	11	10
SO2	36	42	59	33	15	31	68	37	31
Und/Solids	115	210	116	125	80	198	173	226	215

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION SUMMARY

	Jul	Aug	Sept	Jul	Aug	Sept	Jul	Aug	Sept
		1968			1969			1970	
Langstone									
Smoke	9	14	18	8	9	16	4	7	12
SO2	38	38	44	39	37	32	25	18	30
Und/Solids	296	282	97	131	108	100	81	166	148
Underwood									
Smoke	12	16	28	2	5	7	8	11	17
SO2	28	35	58	32	32	30	24	16	32
Und/Solids	422	385	148	-	-	449	-	-	-
Bishton									
Smoke	9	14	22	13	12	13	16	10	17
SO2	39	35	63	32	32	24	44	17	45
Und/Solids	364	213	241	613	230	275	570	480	207
Llanwern									
Smoke	9	13	22	13	11	15	10	8	16
SO2	30	28	44	27	24	22	27	13	23
Und/Solids	233	388	376	440	416	260	459	645	444
Nash									
Smoke	9	13	16	8	8	12	4	9	11
SO2	18	15	20	18	14	16	35	17	25
Und/Solids	63	141	291	346	185	289	250	742	176
Whitson									
Smoke	4	5	7	5	7	7	3	8	10
SO2	70	63	70	38	39	42	31	21	22
Und/Solids	23	337	143	239	143	365	117	202	114

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION SUMMARY

	Oct	Nov	Dec	Oct	Nov	Dec	Oct	Nov	Dec
		1968			1969			1970	
Langstone									
Smoke	23	34	44	22	20	27	16	19	26
S02	41	72	70	42	43	98	14	16	21
Und/Solids	129	34	97	31	78	67	150	124	93
Underwood									
Smoke	36	57	65	10	30	56	33	35	46
S02	50	64	88	36	28	76	40	46	55
Und/Solids	181	66	88	101	-	-	402	246	149
Bishton									
Smoke	26	28	40	13	14	23	23	25	22
S02	50	40	66	10	9	2	51	52	40
Und/Solids	467	96	131	147	279	186	217	367	199
Llanwern									
Smoke	26	27	66	25	31	46	24	23	25
S02	33	32	117	27	36	72	33	41	38
Und/Solids	524	373	311	248	438	405	557	815	423
Nash									
Smoke	16	28	40	14	14	26	16	15	21
S02	12	33	20	13	25	48	36	36	34
Und/Solids	131	139	331	196	176	118	338	325	164
Whitson									
Smoke	10	15	32	8	8	12	14	10	20
S02	39	36	21	29	26	51	28	22	40
Und/Solids	95	95	126	86	237	194	151	226	133

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

Each of the premises registered under Section 49 of the above Act were visited during the year. As in previous years the contraventions found were mostly minor in nature and were very easily remedied by either verbal warnings or informal notices.

6 minor accidents were reported to the Authority during the year. Subsequent investigation revealed that in all but one case no breach of the Act or any of its Regulations had occurred. In one case, however, it was felt necessary to draw the attention of the management of the premises to the slippery nature of a floor which had caused several minor accidents in the past. Works were undertaken to rectify the defect.

The following tables show the number of registrations effected and the number of inspections made during 1970.

TABLE A

Class of Premises	No. of premises newly registered during the year	Total number of registered premises at end of year	Number of registered premises receiving one or more general inspections during the year.
Offices	1	14	14
Retail Shops	2	28	28
Wholesale Shops/W'Houses	-	4	4
Catering Ests/Canteens	1	22	22
Fuel Storage Depots	-	1	1
Total:	4	69	69

TABLE B

Number of visits of all kinds(including general inspection) to registered premises.	 161

TABLE C

Analysis by workplace of persons employed in Registered Premises at the end of the year.

Class of Workplace		Number of persons Employed
Offices		864
Retail Shops		70
Wholesale Departments/Warehouses		35
Catering Establishments		160
Canteens		36
Fuel Storage Depots		1
Total:		1,166
Males	592	
Females	516	
	1,166	

REFUSE

In April of 1970 the Council introduced a Bulk Refuse Collection Service. The new system was generally accepted and has worked well, although one or two minor difficulties have been encountered, and overcome.

1970 became the Year of the Dirty Jobs Strike, and I am pleased to report that the Council's outside staff worked through the strike. This does not mean that we were totally unaffected by the strike as it was found to be necessary to re-open the tip at Bettws for the duration of the stoppage. This proved to be a very expensive operation.

The problem of unauthorised deposition of litter is an increasing one. Almost every day during the summer, reports of such dumping were reported. Such occurrences were so numerous that there was often a delay before these could be removed by the Council's employees.

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1963

I am happy to report that the seven licensed Boarding Establishments were all visited during the year and were found to be entirely satisfactory. There would seem to be an increasing need for this type of animal holiday accommodation in the area, and a similarly increasing awareness on the part of the animal owner of the need to ensure that his animal is well cared for whilst he is away.

New Licences Granted

NIL

Renewal of Existing Licences

Name of Licensee	Premises	Maximum number of Animals
Mrs. L.M. Thomas	Cwmcaddon, Ocherwyth, Risca, Mon.	8 dogs and 6 cats
Mr. F.C. Stone & Mrs. M.E. Roberts-Stone	The Mill, Michaelstone-y-Fedw, Cardiff.	16 dogs and 6 cats
Mrs. A. Dodds	Penlodge Kennels, Llanvaches.	25 dogs and 4 cats
Mr. D.J. Jones & Mrs. J.H. Jones	Hunters Lodge Kennels, Llanvaches.	20 dogs
Mrs. E. Jackson	Aldonnels Kennels, Llanvaches.	30 dogs and 6 cats
Mr. J.J. Jones & Mrs. P.M. Jones	Stream-line Boarding Kennels, Rogerstone.	25 dogs
Mrs. A.E. Pocock	Pantyreos Kennels, Pantyreos Farm, Henllys.	18 dogs

PETROLEUM (CONSOLIDATION) ACTS 1928 - 1960

Each of the 46 established petroleum installations with the rural district received their annual inspection during the year. In every case this inspection was carried out by a member of the Fire Prevention Department of the Monmouthshire County Fire Brigade and a member of this Department. Minor contraventions of the Regulations were found at six of the installations, and informal notices were sent to the offenders. Routine re-visits ensured that these contraventions were remedied in every case.

Once again I wish to record my appreciation for the expert advice and willing assistance given by the Chief Fire Officer and his staff throughout the year.

I remain,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

I. JAMES

Chief Public Health Inspector

Council Offices,
Baneswell,
NEWPORT,
Mon..
NPT 4ST
Tel: Newport 64181

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1970

for the Rural District of Magor & St. Mellons in the County of

Monmouthshire.

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Act, 1961

1. INSPECTION FOR THE PURPOSES OF PROVISIONS AS TO HEALTH

(Including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises.	M/C Line Number	Number on Register	Number of		
			Number of Inspections	Written Notices	Occupier Prosecuted
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.
1. Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	1	3	3	-	-
2. Factories not included in (1) to which Section 7 applies	2	66	17	1	-
3. Other premises under the Act (excluding out-workers premises)	3	-	-	-	-
Totals -		69	20	1	-

1. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars.	M/C Line No.	Number in which defects were found				Number of cases in which Pro- -secutions were instituted
		Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
1.	2	3	4	5	6	7
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	4	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	5	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3)	6	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4)	7	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Drainage of Floors (S.6)	8	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)						
a) Insufficient	9	1	1	-	-	-
b) Unsuitable or Defective	10	-	-	-	-	-
c) Not separate for the Sexes	11	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences, not including offences relating to home work.	12	-	-	-	-	-
Totals		1	1	-	-	-